

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Bad Freienwalde

25X1 EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
25X1 DATE OF CONTENT		
25X1 DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	28 January 1954
REFERENCES		
PAGES	1	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS		

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1. On 30 December 1953, the Panzer Kaserne in Bad Freienwalde was heavily occupied. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. At about 9:30 a.m. on 14 December, there was intensive activity at the installation. Groups of up to 100 soldiers fell in in front of almost all buildings and subsequently marched to the western section of the installation. About 1,000 soldiers were seen. The garages in the northern section were occupied to capacity. Motor vehicles seen were blocked up.
2. At about 7:30 p.m. on 30 December, 14 trucks, each towing a 57-mm AF gun passed through Dannenberg from the direction of Koethen and proceeded toward Bad Freienwalde.

3. On 8 January 1954, the Panzer Kaserne was again occupied by about 2,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank, artillery or motor transport insignia. No training activity was noticed inside the installation. Reports were frequently heard from the training area near Rathsdorf. On 6 January, a column of 2 T-34 tanks, 4 armored half-track vehicles mounting twin-barreled AA guns and a BA-64 armored scout car was seen leaving the installation toward Rathsdorf. An average of 8 trucks of the driver school were frequently seen in town between 14 December and 8 January.

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The student drivers were recruits..

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4. During the period of observation, about 80 Soviet officer families arrived in Bad Freienwalde. They were billeted in vacated houses on August-Bebel Strasse.

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Comment.  report tends to indicate that the Panzer Kaserne was still occupied by units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div up to 8 January. The increased strength of about 2,000 men stated in paragraph 3 is indicative of the possibility that units of the division returned from East Berlin at the beginning of January.

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